pia, dulcis, peplus, exigua, Cyparissias, palustris, and Characias. Professor Murray has collected details respecting the operation of most of these, from various medical authorities. It appears that they all excite vomiting or purging, and in large doses bring on violent burning pains of the stomach and bowels, heat and thirst, followed by great prostration of strength, cold sweats, and in some instance, death. In small quantities, however, they have been used as medicines with safety, although some of them are uncertain in regard to their dose, and difficult to manage in their operation. [*Note* B.]

The genus Euphorbia comprises a vast number of species, of different habit, size and mode of growth. The flowers are frequently minute, very complex, and difficult of examination. They have a *calyciform involucrum with four or five segments like petals, and the same number of interior segments like nectaries. Stamens twelve or more. Filaments articulated. Fertile flower solitary, stipitate, naked. Styles three, bifid. Capsule three seeded.*—The species *Ipecacuanha is procumbent, with opposite, obovate, oblong or linear leaves; peduncles axillary, one flowered, elongated.*

The genus was placed by Linnæus in the class *Dodecandria*, order *Trigynia*. Michaux, considering as separate male flowers, the bodies of stamens which correspond, in number, to the nectaries or lacinulæ, has referred the genus to *Monœcia*, *Monadelphia*. In this he has been followed by various American botanists.—In natural arrangements this genus is among the *Tricoccæ* of Linn. and *Euphorbiæ* of Juss.

The Euphorbia ipecacuanha is a low, tufted plant, growing in sandy soils in the Middle and Southern states. Michaux remarks, that the plants are sometimes buried in the sand. It is a polymorphous vegetable both in its shape and colour, the leaves continually differing in their outline, even in contiguous plants; and the colour varying from green to crimson.

The root is irregular and fleshy, very large in proportion to the plant it bears, running deep into the sand, sometimes, as Mr. Pursh informs us, extending to the depth of six feet. The stems, from one root, are numerous, erect or procumbent, forming large bunches on the surface of the ground. They are smooth, regularly dichotomous, and jointed at the forks. The leaves are inserted at the joints, opposite, sessile, smooth, having most frequently an oblong shape

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